

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Tuesday, as required by state law, county election officials throughout the state successfully completed public testing of the voting equipment to be used to count votes for next Tuesday's General Election.

Since statehood, ballots have been counted by local election officials. This year, that process will take place much faster because of the successful implementation of the Help American Vote Act by state and county election officials for the 2006 election cycle.

The votes cast at each polling location will be counted with the same election technology used successfully and accurately in the majority of North Dakota counties for over twenty years.

After the polls close, election workers will deliver the results from their respective precincts to the County Auditor who, in turn, will transmit them to the Secretary of State's office. Upon receipt, the results will automatically and immediately be posted to the Secretary of State's website at www.nd.gov/sos.

The election results website has the capacity to accommodate the very large number of hits anticipated this coming Tuesday evening.

North Dakota has had an excellent history of well-run and accurate elections. State and county election officials know the importance of each election and take their responsibilities very seriously. They adhere to the requirements of state law and carry out their duties with the greatest of integrity. Once again, North Dakota voters can have comfort in knowing their votes will be counted accurately at the local level by county election officials.

PS to the Media

If anyone has questions about or interest in linking to the Secretary of State's election results website, please call Deputy Secretary of State Jim Silrum at 328-3660.